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sending from the receiving node R_ℓ to the sending node X_ℓ a feedback level f_ℓ such that there will be room in the buffer in the receiving node R_ℓ to store packets subsequently received from the upstream node X_ℓ ;

assigning a priority level λ_p to packets stored in the buffer of the receiving node R_ℓ such that [(a)] all packets destined for the same destination have the same priority level[, and (b) packets closer to their destination have a higher priority level]; and

transmitting from the sending node X_ℓ to the receiving node R_ℓ , only those stored packets whose priority level λ_p is at least equal to the feedback level received from the receiving node R_ℓ .

Add claim 13:

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--13. The invention defined in Claim 9 wherein said assigning steps includes assigning a priority level λ_p such that packets closer to their destination have a higher priority level.--.
